CHAPTER 319

COMMERCE COMMISSION

H. F. 123

AN ACT to create an appointive commerce commission.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

Section thirty-nine point thirteen (39.13), Code 1958, is hereby repealed. The terms of the presently elected commerce commissioners and their successors to fill vacancies, if any, are hereby extended through June 30, 1963. Within sixty (60) days after the convening of the regular session of the general assembly in 1963 the governor shall appoint, with approval of two-thirds (%) of the senate in executive session, successors for the commerce commissioners. One (1) shall be appointed for a term beginning July 1, 1963 and ending June 30, 1965, one (1) for a term beginning July 1, 1963 and 10 ending June 30, 1967, and one (1) for a term beginning July 1, 1963 and ending June 30, 1969.

Section four hundred seventy-four point two (474.2), Code 1958, is hereby repealed and the following enacted in lieu there-

of:
"The Iowa state commerce commission shall be composed of three
"The Iowa state commerce commission shall be from the same (3) members, not more than two (2) of whom shall be from the same political party, and each commissioner appointed in or after 1965 shall serve for six (6) years from July 1 of the year of his appointment. Within sixty (60) days after the convening of each regular session of the general assembly, beginning with the regular session in 1965, the governor shall appoint, with the approval of two-thirds (2/3) of the senate in executive session, a successor to the member of said commission whose term will expire on July 1 following. Vacancies occurring while the general assembly is in session shall be filled for the unexpired portion of the term as full-term appointments are filled. Vacancies occurring while the general assembly is not in session shall be filled by the governor, but such appointments shall terminate at the end of thirty (30) days after the convening of the next regular session of the general assembly and the vacancy shall be filled for the unexpired portion of the term as full-term appointments are filled.

"On the second Tuesday of July of each year, the commission shall organize by electing one (1) of its members as chairman, and appointing a secretary, who shall take the same oath as the commissioners. The commission may employ such additional clerical help as it may

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Approved March 19, 1959.

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CHAPTER 320

HIGHWAY-RAILROAD GRADE CROSSINGS

H. F. 157

AN ACT relating to the creation of a highway grade crossing safety fund and to amend chapter four hundred seventy-eight (478), Code 1958, relating to cattle guards, fences, crossings, and interlocking switches and the authority of the state commerce commission to allocate funds for the protection of the public in the use of highway railroad grade crossings.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

SECTION 1. There is hereby created a fund which shall be known as the highway grade crossing safety fund and shall be made up of the amount allocated by the state treasurer from the road use tax 4 fund.

Section four hundred seventy-eight point twenty-three (478.23), Code 1958, is hereby amended by inserting after the period 3 in line fourteen (14) the following:

"In determining what portion of the expense shall be paid by each party to such controversy the commission may consider the ratio of the benefits accruing to the railroad and/or the governmental unit as it bears to the general public use and benefit and such benefits shall be consistent with the standards adopted for similar purposes by the United States Bureau of Public Roads under the Federal Aid Highway Act of 1944 as amended."

SEC. 3. Chapter four hundred seventy-eight (478), Code 1958, is

hereby amended by adding hereto a new section as follows:

"When application is before the state commerce commission, as provided in section four hundred seventy-eight point twenty-two (478.22) of the Code, and after hearing has been held, and determination as to allocation of costs as provided in section four hundred seventy-eight point twenty-three (478.23) of the Code, the state commerce commission is hereby empowered to allocate proceeds from the highway grading crossing safety fund for the protection of the public in the use of the highway railroad grade crossings involved in the application, in addition to any portion of the cost to be paid by the railroad company or other public authority. Upon reaching a decision as to the amount to be allocated from the highway grade crossing safety fund, the commission shall forthwith direct the treasurer of state to distribute said amount from the funds then available in the highway grade crossing safety fund. Provided, however, the state commerce commission may not allocate any part of the proceeds of the highway grade crossing safety fund for improvement or construction of highway-railroad grade crossings located on federal or federalaid highways."

Approved April 7, 1959.